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Message Text

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PAGE 01 FREETO 02404 031946Z

65
ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 EUR-12 EB-07 OPIC-03 OMB-01

TRSE-00 DLOS-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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---------- 116225
R 031352Z OCT 75
FM AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1951
INFO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
USDOC WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FREETOWN 2404

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS EINV SL LI
SUBJECT: NEW RUSSIAN FISHING VENTURE: EFFECT ON JOINT
LIBERIAN-AMERICAN (VAN CAMP) INTERESTS

REF: FREETOWN 2370

1. LIBERIAN AMB TO SIERRA LEONE WALLACE CALLED ON AMBASSADOR OCT 3 WITH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON EFFORT BY GOSL, LOCAL PRIVATE INTERESTS, AND RUSSIAN FISHING INTERESTS TO FORCE MESURADO TO SELL OUT ITS INTERESTS IN SIERRA LEONE TO PERMIT RUSSIAN-LOCAL VENTURE TO MOVE IN. WALLACE SAYS MESUARDO RESISTING PRESSURE BUT HOPES FOR SUPPORT FROM VAN CAMP, WHICH PARTNER OF MESURADO IN LOCAL FIRM FISH INDUSTRIES LIMITED (FIL). FYI ACCORDING EMBASSY'S INFORMATION, FIL OWNED 50 PERCENT EACH BY VAN CAMP AND JOINT VENTURE FISHING ENTERPRISES (JVFE) WHICH IN TURN OWNED 50 PERCENT BY MESURADO AND 25 PERCENT EACH BY FORMER PRIME MINISTER ALBERT MARGAI AND FORMER GOV GEN TEJAN-SIE, BOTH NOW POLITICAL SELF-EXILES. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS PRESIDENT STEVENS HAS BEEN ATTEMPTING FOR SOME TIME
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TO FORCE MARGAI AND TEJAN-SIE TO GIVE UP THEIR

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INTERESTS IN JVFE. END FYI.

2. EMBASSY SUBSEQUENTLY LEARNED FROM LOCAL BRITISH MANAGER OF FIL AND JVFE THAT VAN CAMP EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT RICHARD MARTINSON AND COUNSEL DANIEL MACLEOD EXPECTED ARRIVE FREETOWN OCT 15.

3. MESSAGE FROM MESURADO TO VAN CAMP WHICH WALLACE REQUESTED AMBASSADOR TO PASS IS TO INFORM VAN CAMP OF PRESSURE ON MESURADO TO SELL, THAT MESURADO RESISTING, AND THAT MESURADO HOPES VAN CAMP REPS WOULD COME TO FREETOWN AND MAKE OFFER TO GOSL TO BUY OUT MESURADO INTEREST. FYI. WALLACE WAS NOT AWARE AT TIME OF INFORMATION RE VISIT SUBSEQUENTLY OBTAINED BY EMBASSY END FYI.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT CONTACT MARTINSON (VAN CAMP SEA FOOD COMPANY, DIV OF RALSTON PURINE, 11555 SORRENTO VALLEY ROAD, SAN DIEGO, CALIF 92121) TO PASS MESURADO MESSAGE AND BACKGROUND.
SAMUELS

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Message Attributes

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